

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
scanning one or more product barcodes;
converting the one or more scanned barcodes into audio tones; and
transmitting, via a communications device, the one or more scanned barcodes as the audio tones to a transaction server computer, such that the transaction computer processes the one or more barcodes in accordance with a barcode processing instruction.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting a connection request to the transaction server computer, including verification information; and
when verified, receiving a connection request acknowledgment from the transaction server computer.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein transmitting the connection request further comprises:
dialing a transaction server computer phone number;
receiving a call answer acknowledgment from the transaction server computer;
receiving a request for caller verification information; and
providing the requested caller verification information to the transaction server computer.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein scanning product barcodes further comprises:
scanning a product barcode;
when a read mode is detected, storing the scanned product barcode; and
repeating the scanning and storing until a transmit mode is detected.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein converting the barcodes further comprises:
selecting a stored optical barcode signal from the one or more scanned product barcodes;

converting the optical barcode signal into an audio barcode signal to enable transmission via a voice communications device; and
repeating the selecting and converting for each stored optical barcode signal.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
selecting a barcode processing instruction; and
transmitting the selected barcode processing instruction to the transaction server computer.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
when the barcode processing instruction is a product purchase instruction, receiving product availability information, including one of a product price, a product source and one or more product delivery options; and
when the product is desired according to the received product availability information, providing a product purchase acknowledgement to the transaction server computer.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the product purchase instruction is one of a product purchase instruction, a mobile market instruction, a desired product instruction and a product comparison instruction.

9. A computer readable storage medium including program instructions that direct a computer to function in a specified manner when executed by a processor, the program instructions comprising:
scanning one or more product barcodes;
converting the one or more scanned barcodes into audio tones; and
transmitting, via a communications device, the one or more scanned barcodes as the audio tones to a transaction server computer, such that the transaction computer processes the one or more barcodes in accordance with a barcode processing instruction.

10. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, further comprising:
transmitting a connection request to the transaction server computer, including verification information; and
when verified, receiving a connection request acknowledgment from the transaction server computer.

11. The computer readable storage medium of claim 10, wherein transmitting the connection request further comprises:

dialing a transaction server computer phone number;
receiving a call answer acknowledgment from the transaction server computer;
receiving a request for caller verification information; and
providing the requested caller verification information to the transaction server computer.

12. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein scanning product barcodes further comprises:

scanning a product barcode;
when a read mode is detected, storing the scanned product barcode; and
repeating the scanning and storing until a transmit mode is detected.

13. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein converting the barcodes further comprises:

selecting a stored optical barcode signal from the one or more scanned product barcodes;
converting the optical barcode signal into an audio barcode signal to enable transmission via a voice communications device; and
repeating the selecting and converting for each stored optical barcode signal.

14. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, further comprising:
selecting a barcode processing instruction; and
transmitting the selected barcode processing instruction to the transaction server computer.

15. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, further comprising:
when the barcode processing instruction is a product purchase instruction,
receiving product availability information, including one of a product price, a product source and one or more product delivery options; and

when the product is desired according to the received product availability information, providing a product purchase acknowledgement to the transaction server computer.

16. The computer readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein the product purchase instruction is one of a product purchase instruction, a mobile market instruction, a desired product instruction and a product comparison instruction.

17. A method comprising:
receiving one or more product barcodes as audio tones;
decoding the received audio tones to determine one or more products identified by the one or more product barcodes; and
performing product processing of the one or more products according to one or more received product processing instructions.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
receiving a connection request from a user, including verification information;
and
once verified, transmitting a connection request acknowledgment to the requesting user.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein receiving the connection request further comprises:
answering a call from the requesting user, including the connection request;
requesting verification information from the user; and
once the verification information is received, verifying that the user is authorized to establish a connection with the transaction server computer based on the received verification information.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein decoding the received audio tones further comprises:
selecting a received audio tone signal;
converting the selected audio tone signal into a product barcode to enable identification of a product associated with the decoded product barcode;
repeating the selecting and converting for each received audio tone; and
requesting a product processing instruction from the user.

21. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

when the received product processing instruction is a product purchase instruction, determining a source for the requested product having a lowest price;

once a product source is determined, providing product purchase information to the requesting user, including one of a product price, a product source and one or more product delivery options; and

once product purchase authorization is received, ordering the desired product for the user according to a received delivery and payment option.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein the product processing instruction is one of a product purchase instruction, a mobile market instruction, a desired product instruction and a price comparison instruction.

23. A computer readable storage medium including program instructions that direct a computer to function in a specified manner when executed by a processor, the program instructions comprising:

receiving one or more product barcodes as audio tones;

decoding the received audio tones to determine one or more products identified by the one or more product barcodes; and

performing product processing of the one or more products according to one or more received product processing instructions.

24. The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, further comprising:

receiving a connection request from a user, including verification information;

and

once verified, transmitting a connection request acknowledgment to the requesting user.

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25. The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein receiving the connection request further comprises:

- answering a call from the requesting user, including the connection request;
- requesting verification information from the user; and
- once the verification information is received, verifying that the user is authorized to establish a connection with the transaction server computer based on the received verification information.

26. The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein decoding the received audio tones further comprises:

- selecting a received audio tone signal;
- converting the selected audio tone signal into a product barcode to enable identification of a product associated with the decoded product barcode;
- repeating the selecting and converting for each received audio tone; and
- requesting a product processing instruction from the user.

27. The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, further comprising:
when the received product processing instruction is a product purchase instruction, determining a source for the requested product having a lowest price;

- once a product source is determined, providing product purchase information to the requesting user, including one of a product price, a product source and one or more product delivery options; and

- once product purchase authorization is received, ordering the desired product for the user according to a received delivery and payment option.

28. The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein the product processing instruction is one of a product purchase instruction, a mobile market instruction, a desired product instruction and a price comparison instruction.

29. An apparatus, comprising:

a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface to receive audio barcode signal and to transmit received audio barcode signals to a transaction server computer;

a scanning device to scan product barcodes and provide scanned product barcodes to the processor; and

a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:

scan one or more product barcodes,

convert the one or more scanned barcodes into audio tones, and

transmit, via a communications device, the one or more scanned barcodes as the audio tones to a transaction server computer, such that the transaction computer processes the one or more barcodes in accordance with one or more barcode processing instruction.

30. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the processor is further caused to:

transmit a connection request to the transaction server computer, including verification information, and

when verified, receive a connection request acknowledge from the transaction server computer.

31. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the instruction to scan product barcodes further comprises:

scanning a product barcode;

when a read load is detected, storing the scanned product barcode; and

repeating the scanning and storing until a transmit mode is detected.

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32. The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the instruction to scan product barcodes further comprises:

selecting a stored optical barcode signal from the one or more scanned product barcodes;

converting the optical barcode signal into an audio barcode signal to enable transmission via a voice communications device; and

repeating the selecting and converting for each stored optical barcode signal.

33. An apparatus, comprising:

a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface to receive audio barcode signals and to provide the received audio barcode signals to the processor; and

a storage device coupled to the processor having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to:

receive one or more product barcodes as audio tones,

decode the received audio tones to determine one or more products identified by the one or more product barcodes, and

perform product processing of the one or more products according to a received product processing instruction.

34. The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the processor is further caused to:

receive a connection request from a user, including verification information; and once verified, transmit a connection request acknowledge to the requesting user.

35. The method of claim 33, wherein the instruction to receive the connection request further causes the processor to:

answer a call from the requesting user, including the connection request;

request verification information from the user; and

once the verification information is received, verify that the user is authorized to establish a connection with the transaction server computer based on the received verification information.

36. The method of claim 33, wherein the instruction to decode the received audio barcode signals further causes the processor to:

- select a received audio tone signal;
- convert the selected audio tone signal into a product barcode to enable identification of a product associated with the decoded product barcode;
- repeat the select and convert for each received audio tone signal; and
- request a product processing instruction from the user.

37. A system comprises:

a transaction server computer to receive one or more audio barcode signals, decode the received audio barcode signals to identify one or more products, and process the one or more identified products according to one or more received product processing instructions; and

a communications device to scan one or more product barcodes that are transmitted to the transaction server computer along with one or more select product processing instructions.

38. The system of claim 37, wherein the communication device further comprises:

- a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
- a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface to receive audio barcode signal and to transmit received audio barcode signals to a transaction server computer;
- a scanning device to scan product barcodes and provide scanned product barcodes to the processor; and
- a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
 - scan one or more product barcodes,
 - convert the one or more scanned barcodes into audio tones, and
 - transmit, via a communications device, the one or more scanned barcodes as the audio tones to a transaction server computer, such that the transaction computer processes the one or more barcodes in accordance with one or more barcode processing instructions.

39. The system 37, wherein the transaction server computer further comprises:

- a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
- a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface to receive audio barcode signals and to provide the received audio barcode signals to the processor; and
- a storage device coupled to the processor having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to:
 - receive one or more product barcodes as audio tones,
 - decode the received audio tones to determine one or more products identified by the one or more product barcodes, and
 - perform product processing of the one or more products according to a received product processing instruction.